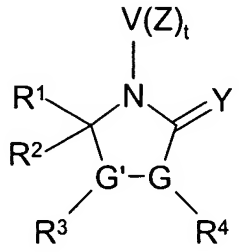
We claim:

1. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to formula I



wherein,

Y is oxygen or sulfur;

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are HC – CH or C = C;

V is heterocycle;

Z is halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro or cyano;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy;

R^3 is $-C(O)R^{3a}$, $-C(O)OR^{3a}$, $-C(O)N(R^{3a})(R^{3b})$, $-S(O)_2R^{3a}$, $-S(O)R^{3a}$ or $-SR^{3a}$ wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^4 is hydroxy, sulfanyl or amino;

t is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or metabolically cleavable derivative thereof, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in the formula I

Y is oxygen, and

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are C = C.

3. The composition according to claim 2 wherein the meaning of V is pyridyl.

4. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in the formula I

Y is oxygen,

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are C = C,

and the meaning of Z is selected from,

a) halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, OH, NO_2 or NH_2;

b) halogen, alkyl, alkoxy, NO_2 or NH_2;

c) fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_{1-4}-alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, NO_2 or NH_2;

d) fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_{1-4}-alkyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, NO_2 or NH_2;

e) fluoro, chloro, bromo, C_{1-4}-alkyl, C_{1-4} alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, NO_2 or NH_2;

f) fluoro, chloro, bromo, C_{1-4}-alkyl, methoxy, trifluoromethyl, NO_2 or NH_2;

g) fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, C_{1-4} alkyl;

h) fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methyl or ethyl;

i) fluoro, chloro, bromo, C_{1-4} alkyl; and

j) fluoro, chloro, bromo, methyl or ethyl.

5. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in the formula I

Y is oxygen,

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are C = C, and t is selected from,

a) 1, 2 or 3; and

b) 1 or 2.

6. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in the formula I

Y is oxygen,

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are C = C,

and the meaning of R^1 is selected from,

a) alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, or substituted heterocycle;

b) C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{3-10} cycloalkyl, C_{6-8} cycloalkenyl, or substituted heterocycle;

c) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkyl, C_{6-8} cycloalkenyl, or substituted heterocycle; and

d) furyl or thienyl, optionally substituted by one or more alkyl or halogen.

7. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in the formula I

Y is oxygen,

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are C = C,

and R^2 is hydrogen.

8. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in the formula I

Y is oxygen,

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are C = C,

and R^3 is $-C(O)R^{3a}$ wherein the meaning of R^{3a} is selected from,

a) alkyl, optionally substituted aryl or heterocycle;

b) C_{1-5}-alkyl, optionally substituted phenyl, benzyl, phenethyl, or thienyl; and

c) methyl.

9. A composition according to claim 1 wherein in the formula I

Y is oxygen,

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are C = C,

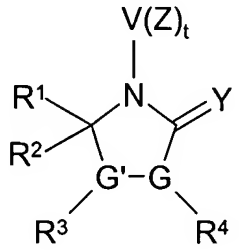
and R^4 is hydroxy.

10. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the compound of formula I is 4-acetyl-5-(4-bromophenyl)-1-(5-bromopyridin-2-yl)-3-hydroxy-1,5-dihydro-2H-pyrrol-2-one.

11. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the compound of formula I is in the form of its (-)-enantiomer.

12. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the compound of formula I is in the form of its (R)-enantiomer.

13. A compound of formula I



wherein,

Y is oxygen or sulfur;

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are HC – CH or C = C;

V is heterocycle;

Z is halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro or cyano;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy;

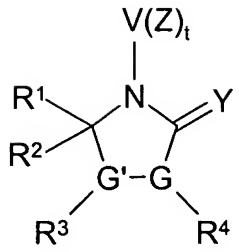
R^3 is $-C(O)R^{3a}$, $-C(O)OR^{3a}$, $-C(O)N(R^{3a})(R^{3b})$, $-S(O)_2R^{3a}$, $-S(O)R^{3a}$ or $-SR^{3a}$ wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^4 is hydroxy, sulfanyl or amino;

t is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or metabolically cleavable derivative thereof.

14. A compound of formula



wherein,

Y is oxygen or sulfur;

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are HC – CH or C = C;

V is heterocycle;

Z is halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro or cyano;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy;

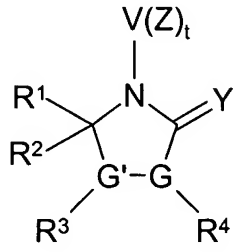
R^3 is $-C(O)R^{3a}$, $-C(O)OR^{3a}$, $-C(O)N(R^{3a})(R^{3b})$, $-S(O)_2R^{3a}$, $-S(O)R^{3a}$ or $-SR^{3a}$ wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^4 is hydroxy, sulfanyl or amino;

t is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or metabolically cleavable derivative thereof.

15. A compound of formula I



wherein,

Y is oxygen or sulfur;

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are HC – CH or C = C;

V is heterocycle;

Z is halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro or cyano;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy;

R^3 is $-C(O)R^{3a}$, $-C(O)OR^{3a}$, $-C(O)N(R^{3a})(R^{3b})$, $-S(O)_2R^{3a}$, $-S(O)R^{3a}$ or $-SR^{3a}$ wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

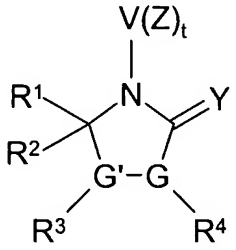
R^4 is hydroxy, sulfanyl or amino;

t is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or metabolically cleavable derivative thereof,

provided that R^1 is not hydrogen, C_1-$_7$-alkyl, phenyl, C_3-$_5$-cycloalkyl, or methylene (C_3-$_5$-cycloalkyl), each alkyl or phenyl group is optionally substituted with one or two methyl, methoxy, ethyl or trifluoromethyl, or up to three halogens.

16. A compound of formula



wherein,

Y is oxygen or sulfur;

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are HC – CH or C = C;

V is heterocycle;

Z is halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro or cyano;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy;

R^3 is $–C(O)R^{3a}$, $–C(O)OR^{3a}$, $-C(O)N(R^{3a})(R^{3b})$, $–S(O)_2R^{3a}$, $-S(O)R^{3a}$ or $-SR^{3a}$ wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

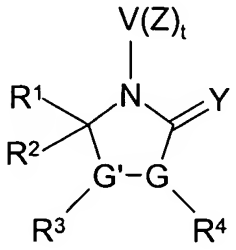
R^4 is hydroxy, sulfanyl or amino;

t is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or metabolically cleavable derivative thereof;

provided that one of R^1 and R^2 is other than hydrogen.

17. A compound of formula



wherein,

Y is oxygen or sulfur;

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are HC – CH or C = C;

V is heterocycle;

Z is halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro or cyano;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy;

R^3 is $-C(O)R^{3a}$, $-C(O)OR^{3a}$, $-C(O)N(R^{3a})(R^{3b})$, $-S(O)_2R^{3a}$, $-S(O)R^{3a}$ or $-SR^{3a}$ wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

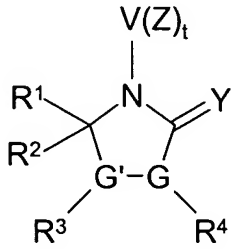
R^4 is hydroxy, sulfanyl or amino;

t is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or metabolically cleavable derivative thereof,

provided that R^3 is not $-C(O)R^{3a}$ wherein R^{3a} is hydrogen, C_1-$_7$-alkyl, C_2-$_3$-alkenyl, phenyl, C_3-$_5$-cycloalkyl, or methylene (C_3-$_5$-cycloalkyl), wherein each alkyl, phenyl or alkenyl group is optionally substituted with (a) one nitro, methoxy or ethoxy, (b) one or two methyl, ethyl or trifluoromethyl, or (c) up to three halogens.

18. A compound of formula



wherein,

Y is oxygen or sulfur;

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are HC – CH or C = C;

V is heterocycle;

Z is halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro or cyano;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy;

R^3 is $-C(O)R^{3a}$, $-C(O)OR^{3a}$, $-C(O)N(R^{3a})(R^{3b})$, $-S(O)_2R^{3a}$, $-S(O)R^{3a}$ or $-SR^{3a}$ wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^4 is hydroxy, sulfanyl or amino;

t is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or metabolically cleavable derivative thereof, and wherein when

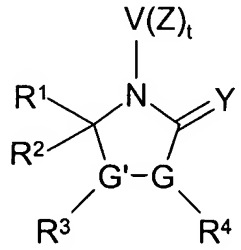
Y is oxygen; and

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are C = C; then

R^1 is other than hydrogen, C_{1-7}-alkyl, phenyl, C_{3-5}-cycloalkyl, or methylene (C_{3-5}-cycloalkyl), each alkyl or phenyl group optionally substituted with one or two methyl, methoxy, ethyl or trifluoromethyl, or up to three halogens when R^2 is hydrogen; or

R^3 is other than -C(O)R^{3a} wherein R^{3a} is hydrogen, C_{1-7}-alkyl, C_{2-3}-alkenyl, phenyl, C_{3-5}-cycloalkyl, or methylene (C_{3-5}-cycloalkyl), each alkyl, phenyl or alkenyl group optionally substituted with one nitro, methoxy or ethoxy, with one or two methyl, ethyl or trifluoromethyl, or with up to three halogens.

19. A compound of formula



in fully or partially resolved isomeric form wherein,

Y is oxygen or sulfur;

G and G', together with the bond linking them, are HC – CH or C = C;

V is heterocycle;

Z is halogen, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, hydroxyl, amino, alkoxy, aryloxy, nitro or cyano;

R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^2 is hydrogen or hydroxy;

R^3 is –C(O)R^{3a}, –C(O)OR^{3a}, -C(O)N(R^{3a})(R^{3b}), –S(O)$_2R^{3a}$, -S(O)R^{3a} or -SR^{3a} wherein R^{3a} and R^{3b} is hydrogen, halogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or heterocycle;

R^4 is hydroxy, sulfanyl or amino;

t is 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or metabolically cleavable derivative thereof.